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CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC ERLENBACHEN Airfield

EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT See below 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 20 January 1950

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 Blueprint

REMARKS

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1. About 40 Pe-2s were parked in four rows of 10 planes each at the ERLENBACHEN (N 53/V 06) airfield at noon on 15 November 1949. Some aircraft were covered with tarpaulins. The planes in the first row had red propeller hubs and those in another row white hubs. Four Pe-2s made individual flights at an altitude of about 3,300 feet.
2. Description of Pe-2, observed from the side while landing: The general appearance as reproduced on the attached sketch is rather correct but the fuselage is shown as being somewhat too clumsy. Near cockpit is higher than front cockpit, there are no guns with fire directed to the rear and up, rod on top of front cockpit (drawn to scale) looks like a pitot-tube, and nose apparently is not glazed.
3. As some planes were covered with tarpaulins, it could not be observed whether all aircraft had the same cockpit arrangement described in para 2. About 75 percent of the planes had the rod on top of the cockpit as described.
4. Thirty-five to forty twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assembly were parked in front of the closed hangers on the southern edge of the field at noon on 25 November 1949. The weather was hazy. There was no activity at the field. A fuel dump of five containers and several drums in the southwestern section of the field was guarded by air force soldiers. Ambulance [REDACTED] left the field. 25X1
5. a. Forty twin-engine aircraft were parked in front of the closed hangers at the field on 5 December 1949. b. Two planes under repair had the following features: Low-wing monoplane, two in-line engines, trapezoidal wings, tortoise-shaped cockpit, landing gear retracting rearward, three-bladed propeller.
- c. There was no flying.

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- 25X1 [ ] 6. The following buildings were on the southern edge of the field, from west to east. Two large hangars, a solidly built building with two smokestacks, flight control station, two small hangars, a large building with two towers and another large building without windows, probably a bunker. The railroad spur track was much rusted. The field lighting facilities were partly destroyed. A bomb dump was in the woods northeast of the field. [ ]

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25X1 [ ] Comment:

a. The information was supplied by three sources who agree that about 40 planes were stationed at the field. The strength of occupation has not changed as compared with observations of November 1949. A bomber regiment is assumed to be stationed in LERNUCHEN. The type of aircraft with two cockpits, the rear cabin higher than the front cabin, described in para 2, was also observed at the LERNUCHEN airfield. It is probably a new model of the Pe-3 (exact model designation unknown). It has not been ascertained whether all or only some aircraft assigned to the bomber regiment stationed at the LERNUCHEN airfield are of this type.

b. The purpose of the rod on top of the cockpit is not known. Venturi-tube is possibly attached to its tip.

Annex: Pe-3 Aircraft Observed at the LERNUCHEN Airfield.

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